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NORTHERN DIVISION  
OFFICE OF REPORTS AND ESTIMATES  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WORKING PAPER

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NORTHERN DIVISION WEEKLY

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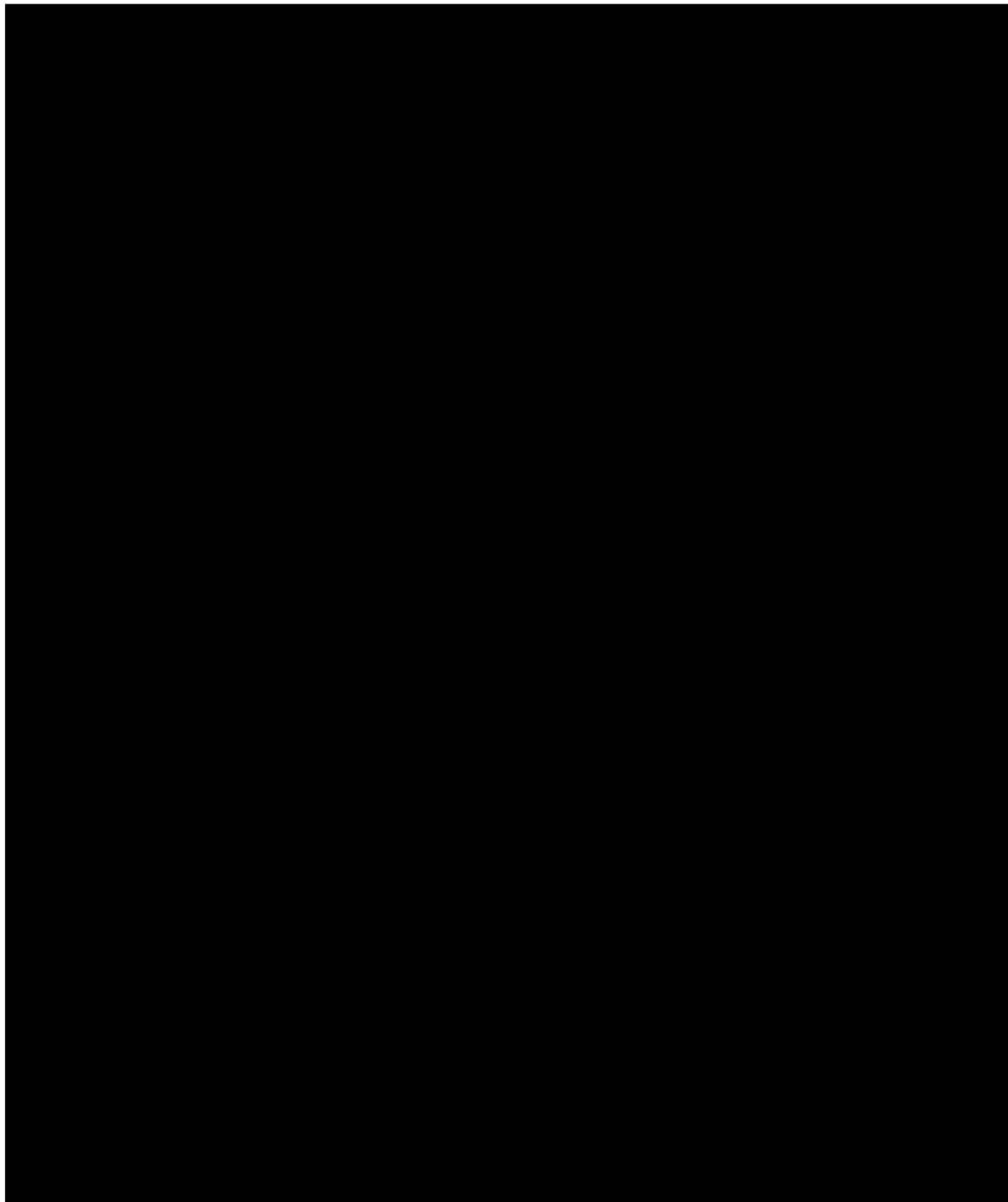
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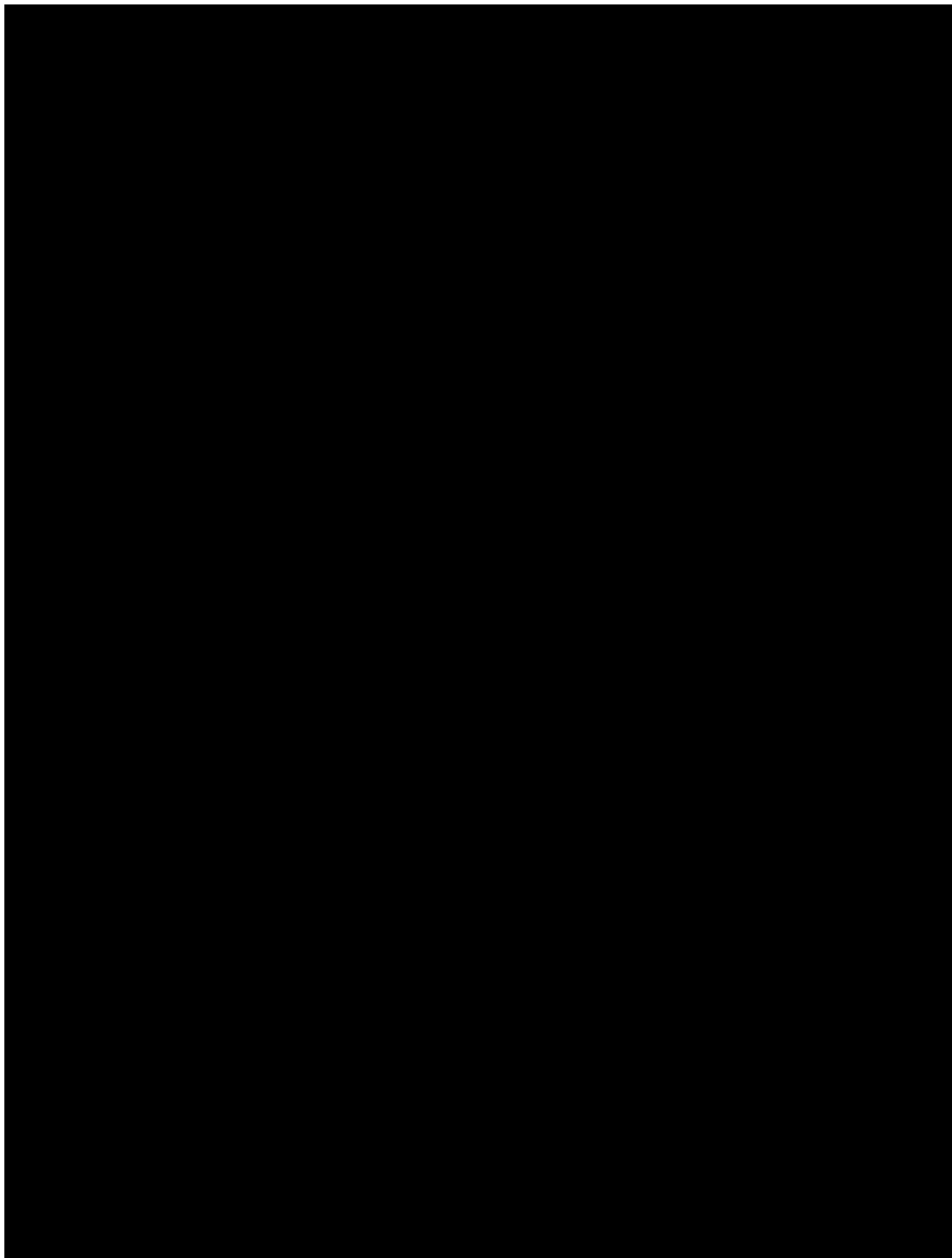
\* See ND Weekly No 91, 21 November

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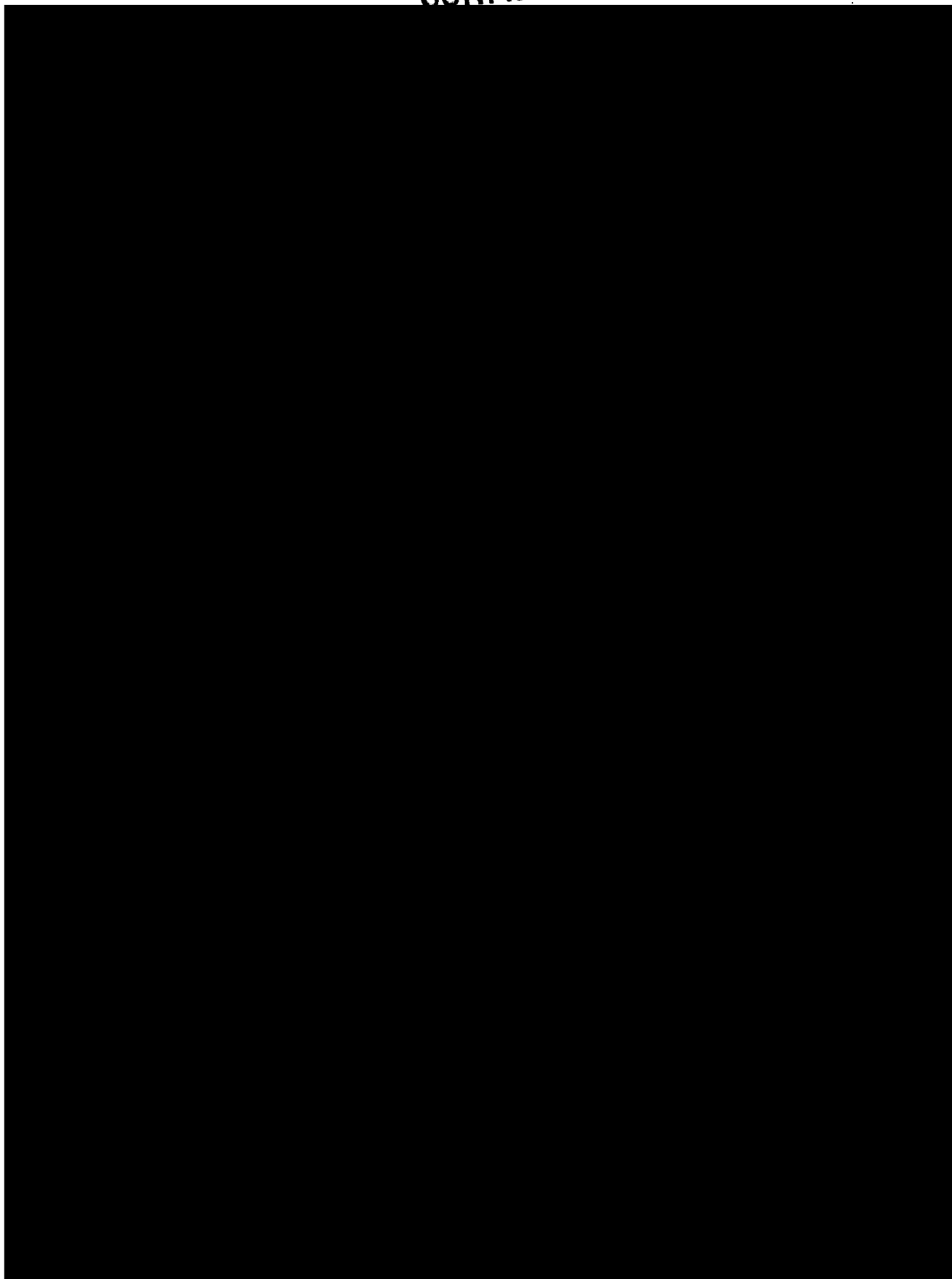
\* See ND Weekly No 82, 19 September

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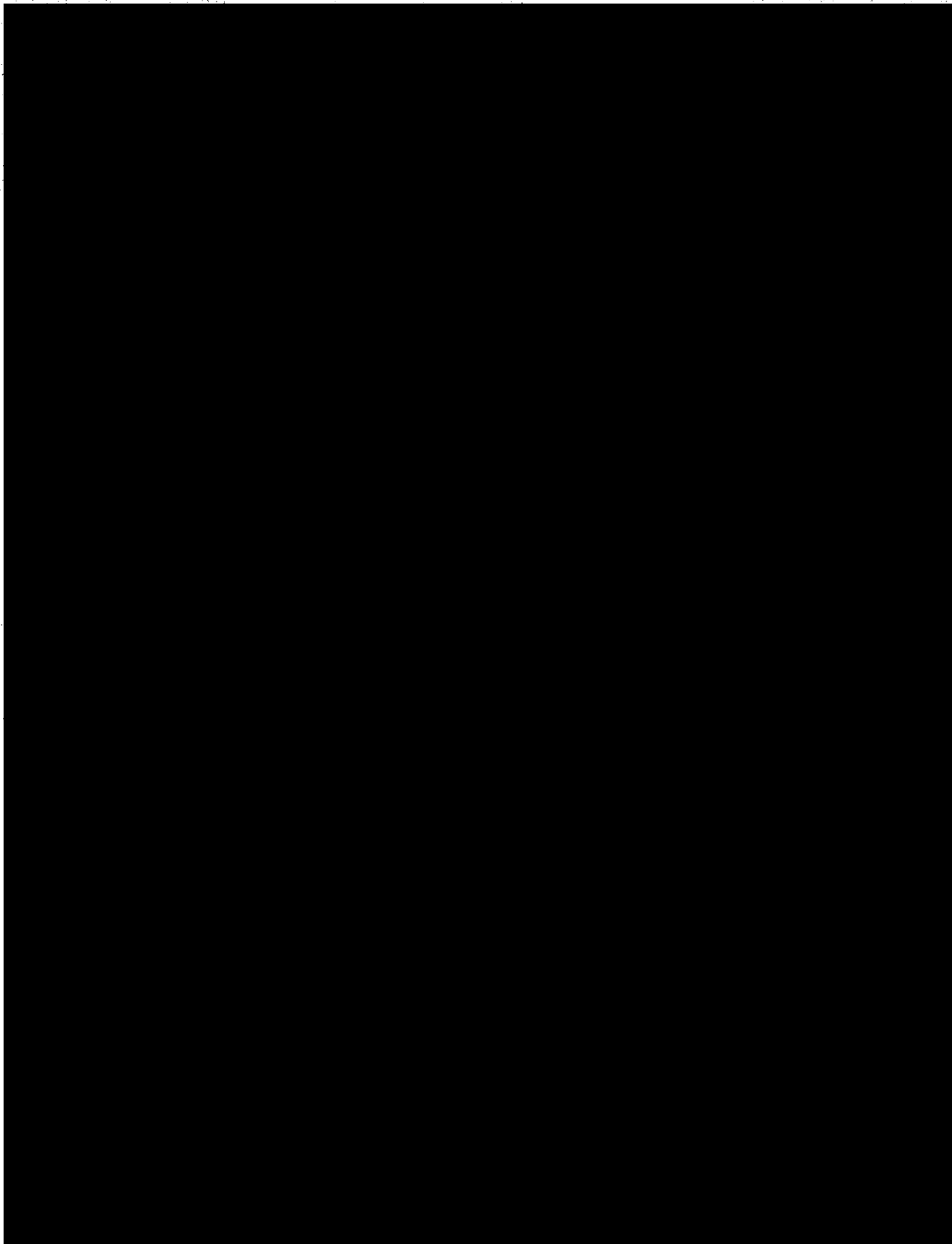


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**CONFIDENTIAL**COMMONWEALTH AND EMPIREUnion of South Africa7. "Voortrekker Day" may be Afrikaans for Donneybrook Fair

Police reinforcements are being sent by the Government to Pretoria to contain possible Afrikaner-British eruptions at the 16 December dedication of the Voortrekker Monument commemorating the Boers' Great Trek northward from Cape Colony 110 years ago. Police forces are also being strengthened throughout the Union against the threat of uprisings of natives, who widely believe a rumor that the Afrikaners intend to attack them on this holiday.

The tone of the celebration is entirely Afrikaner, and Government leaders have made every effort to fire up the republican spirit of the Boer pioneers. The holiday is "national" in the sense that costs are being borne by the state, but the Government has avoided calling it "official" so that the Governor-General, representative of King George VI, can be excluded and the necessity of displaying the Union Jack obviated. The only concession to English-speaking South Africans is the speech scheduled by General Smuts, who has urged his followers, both Afrikaners and British, to attend the celebration in strength and make it a non-sectional affair, but even Smuts will speak in Afrikaans.

The year 1949 has come to have great mystic appeal for many Afrikaners, since it also recalls the outbreak of the Boer War 50 years ago and of the Monument's cornerstone ceremonies in 1939, when fanatic republicans incited riots in several cities. Many of the 150,000 encamped outside Pretoria will wear ancestral slouch hats and sun bonnets, and bearded men will be in a majority. The Nationalists, as a government, are taking strict precautions that inflammatory republican speeches do not revive an active commando spirit of Afrikaners against British, but as a party they are trying at the same time to squeeze the last possible drop of political advantage out of recalling Boer traditions. It is possible that they may revive more than they intend.

8. South Africa won't be moved by UNGA votes on South-West Africa

UN actions on South-West Africa at this GA session will not interfere with the Union of South Africa's assimilation policy.

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lation of that territory. On 6 December the problem was finally passed on to the International Court of Justice by a 40-7 GA resolution, requesting legal determination of the status of the territory. Earlier in the day, the GA had passed a resolution for the fourth consecutive year, calling upon South Africa to place South-West Africa under UN supervision as a trust territory and mildly censuring the Union for refusing to continue submission of annual reports on its administration of the area. The South African delegation joined in the GA debate on the resolutions after boycotting discussion in the Trusteeship Council, but the Government still remains committed to ignore UN recommendations, including a possible adverse ICJ finding, that the inclusion of South-West Africa in the Union as a virtual fifth province be altered to trusteeship status.

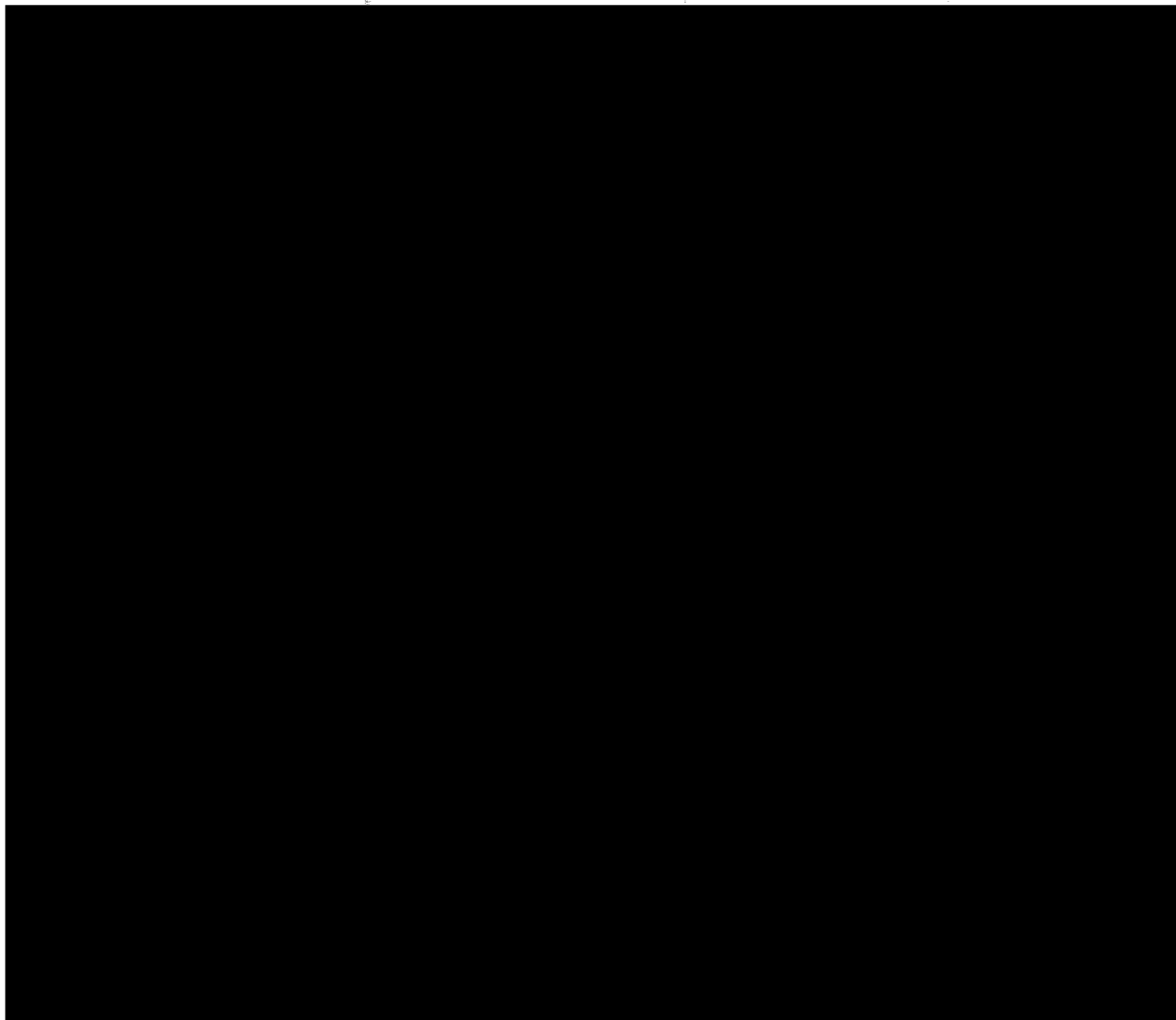
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SCANDINAVIAN BRANCH

NORWAY

1. Norwegian Defense Commission proposes ambitious program

The Norwegian Defense Commission, in submitting its proposal for meeting Norway's defense requirements, has recommended expenditures considerably in excess of the average annual defense budgets during the past three years. Generally favorable public reaction and Government approval of the program are expected.

The findings assume that Norway will be in the danger zone in event of a new war and that defenses must be organized

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to hold strategic points until previously planned aid from the West can arrive. the 21 man commission has been working for two years on the development of a six year defense program to replace the temporary plan initiated in 1946, which expired 1 July 1949. The Commission's work, delayed and modified by such events as the Czech coup, Scandinavian defense discussions, the North Atlantic Pact negotiations, and the development of MAP, was finally finished in September, but release was postponed until after the October national elections in order to avoid political exploitation.

The main recommendations are an annual defense budget of about 300 million kroner (42 million dollars) and a supply and building program for the six year period totalling over one billion kroner (140 million dollars).

#### NOTES

Soviet requests that Norway fulfill its trade commitments by delivering molybdenum and Norway's lack of sufficient molybdenum to satisfy the requests will hamper the Norwegian-Soviet negotiations for a 1950 trade agreement.

Increasing shipments of coal from Spitsbergen have reduced Norway's requirements for imports of Polish coal during 1950.

On UK initiative, the Scandinavian and UK Governments will hold an introductory conference in Stockholm, 15-17 December to investigate closer economic cooperation. Neither a customs union nor the inclusion of the Scandinavians within the sterling area is contemplated, but agreement on the liberalizing of currency and trade restrictions may result.

There are some indications that Sweden may appreciate the krona, after having devalued it in September by the same percentage as the UK devalued sterling. Considerable feeling existed at that time that the percentage was excessive.

Denmark is expected to submit to OEEC a proposal for a new western European payments system. The plan may be worked out jointly with Norway and Sweden.

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